

# Ellsworth Tour Request

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28th Bomb Wing Public Affairs, 1958 Scott Drive, Suite 4, Ellsworth AFB, SD  
57706 1.605.385.5056 | 28bw.pa@us.af.mil

## Base Tours

Thank you for your interest in the 28th Bomb Wing tour program. The following information explains the program and identifies what information we'll need to arrange your tour.

We welcome visitors on the base; it gives them a better understanding of wide variety of activities the U.S. Air Force is doing in South Dakota, helps others understand the mission being accomplished by the 28th Bomb Wing and gives us an opportunity to meet our neighbors. In order to support a tour, there must be at least 15 people in the group and no more than 40.

Tours can entail many different aspects and last anywhere from a 45-minute windshield tour to a six-hour tour including many organizations. Tours are conducted between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Due to mission and manpower requirements, tours are not available on the weekends.

Tours are only conducted from April 1 through Oct. 1 due to potential inclement winter weather.

Please note, if you want to include a tour of one of our B-1B bombers, they are only available on the second and fourth Fridays of the month due to mission requirements.

To request a tour, complete the attached request worksheet and return it to the 28th Bomb Wing Public Affairs office. We will do our best to schedule tours as soon as possible. Due to the base flying schedule and the high volume of requests, it may take time to confirm a tour date for your group.

We do encourage visitors to bring cameras on their visit. There are plenty of opportunities to take photos! There are some restrictions though – such as photography only being allowed on our flightline if you've been given the appropriate authorization. If your tour includes a visit at a B-1 bomber, we require the following information on anyone requesting to take photos: first & last name, last four digits of Social Security number and a current phone number. We will use this information to draft a photo authorization letter that each individual taking photos will need to have on their person while taking photos.

**Security:** Due to security considerations, we may ask for the following information on everyone attending the tour: full name, birthday, last four digits of their Social Security number and photo identification for those older than 16. Also, tour POC must notify the 28th Bomb Wing Public Affairs office in advance of any Distinguished Visitors or Foreign Nationals (both military and civilian), that will be attending the tour so that our office can make the appropriate preparations.

**Transportation:** Due to fiscal restraints, the Air Force may not be able to provide transportation during the tour. This may require the tour requester to use their own bus. Due to security considerations, we cannot "convoy" multiple vehicles around the base. Please make it a point to talk with your point of contact here at Ellsworth to discuss transportation and your tour.

**Cancellations:** Occasionally, mission requirements or a change in security posture may force the cancellation of a tour. This could happen at any time prior to an event. Our staff will notify your group immediately if this occurs. We will work to reschedule your event as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please call the 28th BW Public Affairs office at (605)385-5056.

**Ellsworth Air Force Base Tour Request Form**

\*Please submit the following information by mail or e-mail as soon as possible.

Mail to:  
**28th Bomb Wing Public Affairs**  
**1958 Scott Drive, Suite 4**  
**Ellsworth AFB, SD 57706**

E-mail to:  
**28bw.pa@us.af.mil**

**Audience:**

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Age Range: \_\_\_\_\_ City From: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of visitors (Min. 15, max. 40): \_\_\_\_\_ State From: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Requirements for the group, i.e. wheelchair accessibility : \_\_\_\_\_

**Tour Group Primary Point of Contact:**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Date and Desired Start Time:** Please note whether or not you are flexible on dates. Tours are traditionally conducted between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. We are unable to accommodate weekend or holidays. If you want a B-1B static as part of your tour, they are only available the second and fourth Fridays of the month.

**Purpose:**

General description of why you are visiting Ellsworth Air Force Base, why you are requesting Ellsworth participation and what you hope to accomplish.

Do you need the Air Force to provide a bus? **YES\* NO** (Circle One)

*\*May not be available. Please plan to provide your own bus.*

Would your group like to eat at the Dakota's Club? **YES NO**

**Visits to Facilities/Organizations Requested: (Tours only) Please see choices below.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

Please pick six to eight agencies your group would like to visit during your tour and list them above. From this list we will book the first five agencies that are available on the day of your tour. Agency availability depends on mission and personnel requirements. Please be aware, itineraries are subject to change.

## FLYING AGENCIES

**B-1B Static Display (Only available on the second and fourth Fridays of the month – and may not be available then due to mission requirements.):** The B-1B static display is a chance for visitors to see a B-1B bomber up close and even get inside the cockpit. You will be able to meet aircrew members along with maintainers assigned to the aircraft, who will provide you with in-depth knowledge and facts about the B-1B.

**Life Support (flight equipment):** At Life Support you'll see what it takes to maintain the vast array of equipment aircrew wear to help them survive if they need to eject or are shot down behind enemy lines. Personnel explain their daily operations and visitors are able to see the safety equipment from parachutes to flight helmets and survival kits.

**Flying Squadron Tour:** 34th and 37th Bomb Squadron aircrew guide visitors through their squadrons and explain the mission of the B-1B bombers they operate and the rich history of each squadron.

**Mission Briefing:** With a mission briefing, visitors learn about the history and overall mission of Ellsworth Air Force Base. Mission briefings are given by base commanders, chiefs and other prominent figures on the base.

## OPERATIONS SUPPORT AGENCIES

**Airfield Management:** Part of the 28th Operations Support Squadron, airfield management is where all airfield movement and air traffic procedures are managed and maintained. Visitors will be able to see where airfield management Airmen work and will learn what tools are utilized to aid in airfield management.

**Air Traffic Control Tower:** The tower is where air traffic controllers manage aircraft landing and taking off at Ellsworth. It is a smaller facility more suitable for smaller groups where visitors can witness first-hand controller operations.

**Radar Approach Control:** Visitors are given a tour of the radar approach control facility where they are able to see and learn what controllers do for the base and surrounding areas, to include the Rapid City Regional Airport.

**Fire Department:** Personnel at the fire department give visitors an in-depth tour of the fire department facility. Visitors get to see where the firefighters sleep, eat and work. Visitors also are able to take photos on the fire response vehicles and try on firefighting gear.

**Armory Demonstration:** Here you will get a glimpse of the different weapons security forces Airmen utilize to keep the base and its Airmen safe and secure.

**Military Vehicle Operations (Humvee and police vehicle):** Take a tour of the different military vehicles on base that aid in the protection and success of the Air Force mission. Visitors are able to ask questions about what military vehicle operations are about and will get to spend time with operators and sit in the vehicles.

**Weather Squadron:** You will learn how weather plays an integral part in mission success. Weather specialists will inform you on how they predict weather patterns and prepare forecasts as well as how they brief pilots and commanders on weather conditions.

**Deployment Center:** Visit the facility where Airmen go before they deploy to different regions throughout the world. Here you'll see the process Airmen go through when they are deploying – from checking in bags to mission briefings.

**Explosive Ordnance Disposal:** This is the place where you'll learn how an Explosive Ordnance Disposal specialist deals with improvised explosive devices and unexploded ordnance. Visitors will learn about the wide range of equipment and tools utilized in this field, and will also get to try on the protective suit worn when dealing with explosive devices. Photos are highly encouraged.

**Military Working Dogs:** One of the more popular facilities to visit, the 28th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog Section is where you will be given a tour of how the MWDs live and train. The MWD trainers will also demonstrate how the dogs approach different high-risk scenarios. Photos are highly encouraged.

### **PERSONNEL SUPPORT AGENCIES**

**Hospital:** The base hospital is where all the medical operations take place, from public health and flight medicine to dental and physical therapy.

**Fitness Center:** The Bellamy Fitness Center is where Airmen go to stay fit-to-fight. There is an outdoor pool available for a small entrance fee, which tour guests can utilize if they want to incorporate time during their busy tour schedule.

**Base Housing and Airmen Dormitories:** Visitors can take a drive-thru tour of the housing facilities on base, including the dorms, NCO housing and officer housing. If requested, visitors can walk through the dorms to see how single Airmen on base live and the different amenities available to them.

**Chapel:** The base chapel is where all religious functions take place – from Sunday services to memorial services. Meet the Chapel staff and learn about the mission of military chaplains.

**Other Agencies:** South Dakota Air & Space Museum (missile silo tour available for ticket fee)

Depending on group make up, we may be able to set up briefings with specialists to discuss various topics. For example, an engineering club may be interested in visiting with our Air Force civil engineers about changes in the career field and new methods in the industry. If interested in this option, please elaborate in your e-mail or by letter.

\*\*\*All choices are subject to availability and pre-existing mission requirements\*\*\*